

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 PC-01 OMB-01 /057 W

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O R 221310Z JUL 75O

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0090

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

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1. TODAY'S PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT LIKE THOSE OF YESTERDAY CONTAINED NO SURPRISES. GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN DOMINATED THE PROCEEDINGS, THOUGH THERE WERE SPEECHES CRITICAL OF THE EMERGENCY FROM SECOND ECHELON OPPOSITION MPS. ACCORDING TO HINDU SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT, G.K. REDDY, WHO WAS IN ATTENDANCE, THE OPPOSITION MP'S WHO HAVE NOT YET BEEN ARRESTED SIMPLY LACK THE WORD AND WIND POWER OF THEIR JAILED COLLEAGUES, AND THEIR PERFORMANCE WAS NOT IMPRESSIVE. THE DEBATE ON THE EMERGENCY WILL CONTINUE TOMORROW IN THE LOK SABHA. THE RAJYA SABHA APPROVED THE EMERGENCY BY A VOTE OF 136 TO 33.

2. THE LAW MINISTER INTRODUCED CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILLS APPROVING THE SERIES OF ORDINANCES ISSUED DURING THE EMERGENCY LIMITING CIVIL LIBERTIES, GRANTING THE GOVERNMENT POWERS TO CONFISCATE THE PROPERTY OF PERSONS EVADING ARREST AND MAKING THE EMERGENCY ITSELF NON-JUSTICIABLE. IN LINE WITH THE

JULY 21ST CABINET DECISION, THE GOI ALSO MOVED A

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BILL EXTENDING THE LIFE OF THE KERALA ASSEMBLY FOR

6 MONTHS.

3. MRS GANDHI ROSE TO DEFEND THE EMERGENCY IN THE
LOK SABHA TODAY. SHE ATTACKED THE OPPOSITION FROM PROVOKING THE EME
RGENCY;H REITEATED THAT "THERE
COULD BE NO RETKTN TO PREEMERGENCY SITUATION OF
TOTAL LICENSE AND POLITICAL PERMISSIVENESS; "HAILED
THE EMERGENCY AS THE ADVENT OF A NEW ERA IN NATIONAL
LIFE; INSISTED THAT HER ACTION WAS SOLELY DESIGNED
TO SAVE DEMOCRACY RATHER THAN TO DESTROY IT; AND
HELD FBHAT "A FEW NEWSPAPERS ABROAD, OUT OF A MIS-O
TAKEN NOTION OR DELIBERATE DESIGKHNZ WERE DESKNIBING
ISOLATED ATTEMPTS TO "SABOTAGE ESSENTIAL SERVICES"
AS A "RESISTANCE MOVEMENT." SHE REBUTTED CHARGES
MADE FROM THE FLOOR THAT SHE WAS A FASCIST AND
ENDED BY STATING THAT "VERY MUCH HAS TO BE DONE
TO CHANGE THE LIFE IN OUR CITIES AND OUR VILLAGES.
IN OUR DESERT AND HILL AREAS. I VERY RESPECTFULLY
AND HUMBLY REQUEST THE OPPOSITION TO TRSXAND HELP
IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS POSITIVE PROGRAMME.
LET US TRY AND SEE WHETHER WE CAN CONVERT THIS
PAINFUL NECESSITY INTO AN OPPORTUNITY TO WORK
TOGETHER AND TAKE THIS COUNTRY FORWARD."O
SAXBE

NOTE BY OC/T: TEXT AS RECEIVED.

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